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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hitoshi Ota, et al

Group No.:

Serial No.: 09/832,171

Filed: April 10, 2001

Examiner:

For: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PIGMENT DISPERSION, PIGMENT DISPERSION
OBTAINED BY THE SAME, INK JET RECORDING INK COMPRISING THE SAME, AND
RECORDING METHOD AND RECORDED MATERIAL USING THE SAME

Attorney Docket No.: U013390-0

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

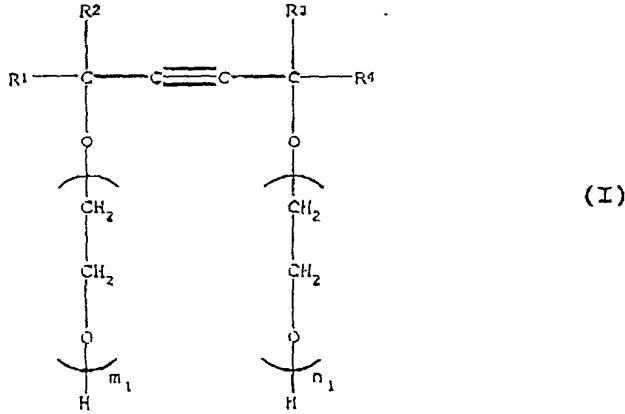
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

6. (Amended) The process for the preparation of a pigment dispersion according to claim 4, wherein said acetylene glycols and acetylene alcohols are compounds represented by the following general formulae (I) and (II), respectively:



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

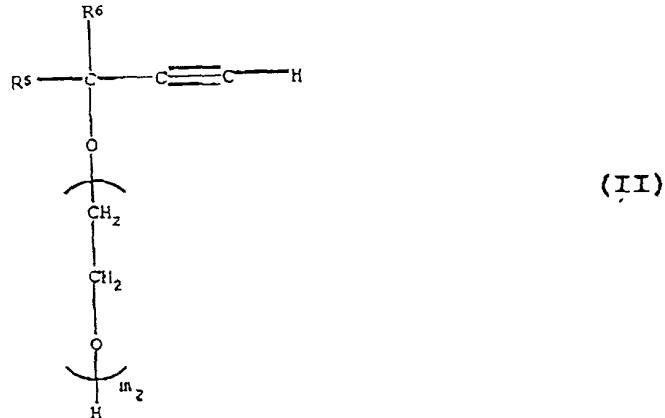
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

Clifford J. Mass
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Date: May 18, 2001

wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ each independently represent an alkyl group; and the sum of m₁ and n₁ is from 0 to 30.



wherein R⁵ and R⁶ each independently represent an alkyl group; and m₂ is from 0 to 30.

21. (Amended) A pigment dispersion prepared by the process for the preparation of a pigment dispersion described in claim 1.

26. (Amended) A recorded material obtained by the method described in claims 23.

REMARKS

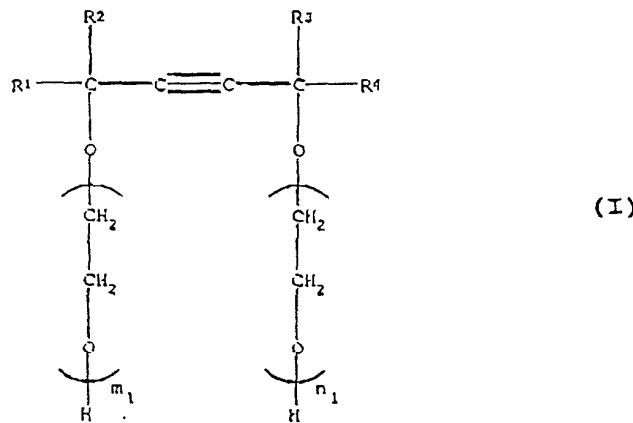
The above amendatory action is taken for the purpose to avoid claim fees that would otherwise accrue due to the presence of multiply dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

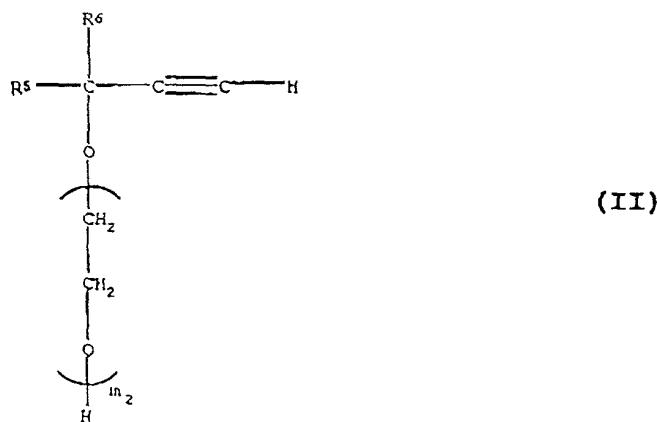
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MARK UP

6. (Amended) The process for the preparation of a pigment dispersion according to Claim 4 [or 5], wherein said acetylene glycols and acetylene alcohols are compounds represented by the following general formulae (I) and (II), respectively:



wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ each independently represent an alkyl group; and the sum of m₁ and n₁ is from 0 to 30.



wherein R⁵ and R⁶ each independently represent an alkyl group; and m₂ is from 0 to 30.

21. (Amended) A pigment dispersion prepared by the process for the preparation of a pigment dispersion described in claim [any one of Claims] 1 [to 20].

26. (Amended) A recorded material obtained by the method described in claim [anyone of Claims] 23 [to 25].